ST JOHN'S DATES. Please note that there is a Children's Bruch Club from 1000 on the second and fourth Sundays, starting in St John's Centre. Also please note the Evening Praise services at 6.30pm at Swalecliffe centre (2nd Sunday of month) on and Chestfield W I hall (4th Sunday of month)

A prayer for the vacancy at Seasalter and in the Team
God our Father, you call us to be the body of Christ here. Send your Holy Spirit at this time of change; Fill us with vision, energy and faithfulness in prayer. May this vacancy be a time of deeper love and fellowship, as you guide us with your heavenly wisdom. Help us to choose the one who will share with us in your perfect plans, in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

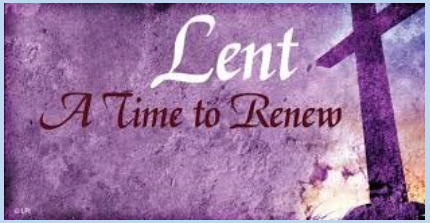
This publication will not cover all services and events in the Team, just those sent to the editor, Rev Simon Tillotson. Next deadline 13th March for April edition – email tillotsons@gmail.com – 01227 272308

Sacred Space at All Saints in March is on Monday March 26th at 8pm to 9pm. Please remember to bring a torch.

UNITY UPDATE

March 2018

Fr David Vannerley writes..



Are you keeping a good Lent?

I hope so, because in all the business of our lives we desperately need space for reflection and Lent is the one time in the year that has held on to its inner meaning: no-one has dreamt up a way of turning it into a commercial opportunity … yet. I suppose someone could try and sell Lent Calendars (that's the sort you put a chocolate *into* everyday) or perhaps an enterprising maker of ash grey paint could try and encourage us to copy the Hindu festival of Holi, when people throw colour paint powder over each other in the street.
No, Lent is still Lent: the time for reflection and examination of our inner lives. We know where it is all leaving, of course, the peace of Lent leads to the horror of Good Friday and then on to the glorious joy of Easter. You will already have decided what your fast will be, it might be those chocolates, and I hope that you will also have decided what your **extra** is for Lent, that which you are taking on in a desire to give more to God or to neighbour. I also hope that both those disciplines are going well for you and being a source of blessing.
Just thinking about the other end of Lent for a moment though: we do these things for a purpose, to help us enter into the journey. It is, in truth, a journey that all Christian disciples are on, from the darkness of being detached from God, through a time of testing and reflection, and onto the moment of realisation – 'Yes, this is my faith: Jesus Christ has died, Jesus Christ has risen, Jesus Christ will come again'. Fast or slow, sudden or prolonged, it is the process of the conversion of our lives from darkness to light, the glorious risen light of Christ. So keep a good Lent but let it lead you also to an Easter of rejoicing. Every blessing, David

EASTER SERVICES – the following churches sent information to the editor for publication

ST JOHN'S SWALECLIFFE

St John's Saturday Market on March 3rd from 0930 at St. John's Centre: bargains, light refreshments and friendly chat.

Easter Services at St John's Swalecliffe:

Good Friday 1400 In his Steps - quiet reflection starting in the Scout Hall and moving to the Church: 45 minutes long.

Easter Eve 1000 Easter Crafts and Games morning for children and families in St John's Centre, until noon

1400 The Easter Detectives: an Easter adventure around St John's Church for children and families

1630 Evening Prayer and lighting of the Easter Candle: in St John's Centre for 45 minutes.

Easter Day 1000 Easter worship starts in St John's Centre with the light being carried to Church for 1030 Sung Eucharist

1600 Easter Café Church in St John's Centre

ST PETER'S WHITSTABLE

Palm Sunday 25th March 10.45 am Sung Eucharist with the Reading of the Passion 6.30 pm Stations of the Cross

Maundy Thursday 29th March

8 pm Sung Eucharist of the Last Supper, Stripping of the Altars and Gethsemane Watch

Good Friday 30th March Noon The Liturgy of the Cross

Holy Saturday 31st March 8 pm Easter Vigil

Easter Sunday 1st April 10.45 am Sung Eucharist

6.30 pm Sung Evensong & Benediction

ALL SAINTS Maundy Thursday 10am Eucharist, 7.30pm Agape Supper and Footwashing

Good Friday – Three Hours at the Cross from 12 noon to 3pm

Easter Day 6.15am Sunrise Service below the Marine Hotel (bring transport as service finishes in church)

Then 8am and 10am Holy Communion services in church with Easter Egg hunt for children.

The St Alphege Town Church café is open every morning Monday to Friday (not just Tuesday and Thursdays!)

Usual opening hours are:

Monday: 9 – 12 tea & biscuits
Tuesday: 9 – 1:30 cakes and lunches
Wednesday: 9-12 tea & biscuits
Thursday: 9 – 1:30 cakes and lunches
Friday: 9:30 -12 crumpets & teacakes

MOTHERS UNION IN MARCH

Tuesday 6th 10.00am Seasalter Christian Centre - short talk about Porchlight's One Week Without - followed by members' hopes for their holidays this year.

Thursday 15th 2.30pm Thorpe Room All Saints Church Hall. - Thinking about Mothering Sundays, past and present.

Thursday - Saturday 16th - 18th Mothers' Union Wave of Prayer.

Saturday service – 18th in St.Pauls Canterbury - awaiting further information

ST JOHN'S LENT COURSES

St John's is running two Lent Courses this year to which all are invited.

- **On Tuesdays from 2.30 pm until 4.00 pm at 16a Herne Bay Road - 'On the Third Day' - a York Course devised by Bishop John Prichard (former Archdeacon of Canterbury). Listen to a variety of voices on CD followed by discussion. Contact Cedric on 772035 or cedclan@gmail.com if you would like to come.**
- **On Wednesdays from 7.30 pm until 9.00 pm in St John's Centre, St John's Road 'How to do Christian Ethics' led by Revd David Vannerley. Contact David on 07510 838123 or vannerley@aol.com if you would like to come.**

ALL SAINTS LENT COURSE at the All Saints Vicarage. 7.30pm t0 9.15pm "TRUTH AND HERESY – a four week look at the doctrine of Christ or "Christology" from two very different perspectives"

27th Feb and 6th March – an introduction to the work of N T Wright 13th March and 20th March – Barbara Thiering

Wright and Thiering come at Christology from completely different points of view. Understanding both helps us in our own journey. Contact Rev Simon Tillotson on 01227 272308 or tillotsons@gmail.com if you are intending to come to this.